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<u>PATENT</u>

Attorney Docket No.: 017201-046410US

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

By: Bonne Rickles

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Frank Anderson et al.

Application No.: 10/612,280

Filed: July 1, 2003

For: ALUMINUM OXIDE CERAMIC COMPONENTS AND METHODS

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 5794

Examiner: Karl E. Group

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1755

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the

following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.